

# The Liberator

Devoted to the Cause of Good Government and the Advancement of the Afro-American

VOL. VI.

LOS ANGELES, CAL., FEBRUARY 1905.

No. 10



PRESIDENT THEODORE ROOSEVELT,  
Friend and President of all the American people.  
Courtesy of the Herald.

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## How About an Overcoat

We want you to come in and see the Overcoat we have ready for you—a splendid, serviceable, stylish Overcoat that will wear for seasons, the right shape, right style, right quality, and not one penny higher in price than you'd pay for an ordinary, every-day, common overcoat.

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## The President's Great Speech at the Lincoln Dinner.

### The Door of Hope will not be Closed Against Us.

#### THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

The President was introduced by Louis Stein, president of the Republican Club, in a brief speech, and as he rose to reply, the banqueters in the adjoining rooms, crowded into the main hall and gallery, every inch of space in which was taken. The President said:

In his second inaugural, in a speech which will be read as long as the memory of this nation endures, Abraham Lincoln closed by saying:

"With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; . . . to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."

Immediately after his re-election he had already spoken thus:

"The strife of the election is but human nature practically applied to the facts of the case. What has occurred in this case, must ever recur in similar cases. Human nature will not change. In any future great national trial, compared with the men of this, we shall have as weak and as strong, as silly and as wise, as bad and as good. Let us, therefore, study the incidents of this as philosophy to learn wisdom from, and none of them as wrongs to be avenged. . . May not all having a common interest, reunite in a common effort to (serve) our common country? For my own part, I have striven and shall strive to avoid placing any obstacle in the way. So long as I have been here I have not willingly planted a thorn in any man's bosom. While I am deeply sensible to the high compliment of a re-election, and duly grateful, as I trust, to Almighty God for having directed my countrymen to a right conclusion, as I think, for their own good, it adds nothing to my satisfaction that any other man may be disappointed or pained by the result.

"May I ask those who have not differed with me to join with me in this same spirit toward those who have?"

This is the spirit in which mighty

Lincoln sought to bind up the nation's wounds when its soul was yet seething with fierce hatreds, with wrath, with rancor, with all the evil and dreadful passions provoked by civil war. Surely this is the spirit which all Americans should show now, when there is so little excuse for malice or rancor or hatred, when there is so little of vital consequence to divide brother from brother.

#### APPEAL TO THE SWORD.

Lincoln, himself a man of southern birth, did not hesitate to appeal to the sword when he became satisfied that in no other way could the Union be saved, for high though he put peace, he put righteousness still higher. He warred for the Union: he warred to free the slave; and when he warred, he warred in earnest, for it is a sign of weakness, to be half-hearted when blows must be struck. But he felt only love, a love as deep as the tenderness of his great and sad heart, for all his countrymen, alike in the North and in the South, and he longed above everything for the day when they should once more be knit together in the unbreakable bonds of eternal friendship.

We of today, in dealing with our fellow-citizens, white or colored, North or south, should strive to show just the qualities that Lincoln showed: His steadfastness in striving after the right, and his infinite patience and forbearance with those who saw that right less clearly than he did; his earnest endeavor to do what was best, and yet his readiness to accept the best that was practicable when the ideal best was unattainable; his unceasing effort to cure what was evil, coupled with his refusal to make a bad situation worse by any ill-judged or ill-timed effort to make it better.

The great Civil War in which Lincoln towered as the loftiest figure, left us not only a re-united country, but a country which has the proud right to claim as its own, the glory won alike by those who wore the blue and by those who wore the gray, by those who followed Grant and by those who followed Lee; for both fought with equal bravery, and with equal sincerity of conviction, each striving for the light, as it was given him to see the light; though it is now clear to all, that the triumph of the cause of freedom and of the Union, was essential to the welfare of mankind. We are now one people, a people with failings

which we must not blink, but a people with great qualities in which we have the right to feel just pride.

#### FRIENDSHIP FOR THE SOUTH.

All good Americans who dwell in the North, must, because they are good Americans, feel the most earnest friendship for their fellow-countrymen who dwell in the South, a friendship all the greater, because it is in the South, that we find in its most acute phase, one of the gravest problems before our people: the problem of so dealing with the man of one color as to secure him the rights that no one would grudge him if he were another color. To solve this problem it is of course, necessary to educate him to perform the duties a failure to perform which will render him a curse to himself and to all around him.

Most certainly all clear-sighted and generous men in the North appreciate the difficulty and perplexity of this problem, sympathize with the South in the embarrassment of conditions for which she is not alone responsible, feel an honest wish to help her, where help is practicable, and have the heartiest respect for those brave and earnest men of the South, who, in the face of fearful difficulties, are doing all that men can do for the betterment alike of white and black. The attitude of the North toward the negro is far from what it should be, and there is need that the North also, should act in good faith, upon the principle of giving to each man what is justly due to him, of treating him on his worth as a man, granting him no special favors, but denying him no proper opportunity for labor, and the reward of labor. But the peculiar circumstances of the South, render the problem there far greater, and far more acute.

Neither I, nor any other man, can say that any given way of approaching that problem will present in our time, even an approximately perfect solution, but we can safely say, that there can never be such solution at all unless we approach it with the effort to do fair and equal justice among all men; and to demand from them in return, just and fair treatment for others. Our effort should be to secure to each man, whatever his color, equality of opportunity, equality of treatment before the law. As a people striving to shape our actions



in accordance with the great law of righteousness, we cannot afford to take part in or be indifferent to, the oppression or maltreatment of any man, who, against crushing disadvantages has by his own industry, energy, self-respect and perseverance, struggled upward to a position which would entitle him to the respect of his fellows, if only his skin were of a different hue.

Every generous impulse in us revolts at the thought of thrusting down, instead of helping up such a man. To deny any man the fair treatment granted to others no better than he, is to commit a wrong upon him—a wrong sure to react in the long run upon those guilty of such denial. The only safe principle upon which Americans can act is that of "all men up," not that of "some men down." If in any community the level of intelligence, morality, and thrift among the colored men can be raised, it is, humanly speaking, sure that the same level among the whites will be raised to an even higher degree; and it is no less sure, that the debasement of the blacks will in the end carry with it an attendant abasement of the whites.

The problem is to so adjust the relations between the two races of different ethnic type, that the rights of neither be abridged nor jeopardized; that the backward race be trained so that it may enter into possession of true freedom, while the forward race is enabled to preserve unharmed the high civilization wrought out by its fore-fathers. The working out of this problem must necessarily be slow; it is not possible in offhand fashion to obtain or to confer the priceless boons of freedom, industrial efficiency, political capacity, and domestic morality.

Nor is it only necessary to train the colored man; it is quite as necessary to train the white man, for on his shoulders rests a well-nigh unparalleled sociological responsibility. It is a problem demanding the best thought, the utmost patience, the most earnest effort, the broadest charity, of the statesman, the student, the philanthropist, of the leaders of thought in every department of our national life. The church can be a most important factor in solving it aright. But above all else, we need for its successful solution the sober, kindly steadfast, unselfish performance of duty by the average plain citizen in his everyday dealings with his fellows.

The ideal of elemental justice meted out to every man is the ideal we should keep ever before us. It will be many a long day before we attain to it, and unless we show not only devotion to it, but also wisdom and self-restraint in the exhibition of that devotion, we shall defer the time for its realization still further. In striving to attain so much of it as concerns dealing with men of different colors, we must remember two things.

#### FATE OF THE NEGRO.

In the first place it is true of the colored man, as it is true of the white man, that in the long run, his fate must depend far more upon his own efforts, than upon the efforts of any outside friend. Every vicious, venal, or ignorant colored man is an even greater foe to his own race than to the community as a whole. The colored man's self respect entitles him to do that share in the political work of the country which is warranted by his individual ability and integrity, and the position which he has won for himself. But the prime requisite of the race, is moral and industrial uplifting.

Laziness and shiftlessness, these, and above all, vice and criminality of every kind, are evils more potent for harm to the black race than all acts of oppression of the white man put together. The colored man who fails to condemn crime in another colored man, who fails to cooperate in all lawful ways in bringing colored criminals to justice, is the worst enemy of his own people, as well as an enemy to all the people. Law abiding black men should, for the sake of their race, be foremost in relentless and unceasing warfare against law-breaking black men. If the standards of private morality and industrial efficiency can be raised high enough among the black race, then its future on this continent is secure. The stability and purity of the home, is vital to the welfare of the black race, as it is to the welfare of every race.

In the next place, the white man, who, if only he is willing, can help the colored man more than all other white men put together, is the white man who is his neighbor, North or South. Each of us must do his whole duty without flinching, and if that duty is national it must be done in accordance with the principles above laid down. But in endeavoring each to be his

brother's keeper it is wise to remember that each can normally do most for the brother who is his immediate neighbor. If we are sincere friends of the negro let us each in his own locality show it by his action therein, and let us each show it also by upholding the hands of the white man, in whatever locality, who is striving to do justice to the poor and the helpless, to be a shield to those whose need for such a shield is great.

#### CRUSADE AGAINST LYNCHING.

The heartiest acknowledgments are due to the ministers, the judges and law officers, the grand juries, the public men, and the great daily newspapers in the South, who have recently done such effective work in leading the crusade against lynching in the South; and I am glad to say that during the last three months the returns, as far as they can be gathered, show a smaller number of lynchings than for any other two months during the last twenty years. Let us uphold in every way the hands of the men who have led in this work who are striving to do all their work in this spirit. I am about to quote from the address of the Rt. Rev. Bishop Strange, bishop coadjutor of North Carolina, as given in the Southern Churchman of October 8, 1904.

The bishop first enters an emphatic plea against any social intermingling of the races; a question which must, of course, be left to the people of each community to settle for themselves, as in such a matter no one community—and indeed no one individual—can dictate to any other; always provided that in each locality men keep in mind the fact that there must be no confusing of civil privileges with social intercourse. Civil law cannot regulate social practices. Society, as such, is a law unto itself, and will always regulate its own practices and habits. Full recognition of the fundamental fact that all men should stand on an equal footing, as regards civil privileges, in no way interferes with recognition of the further fact that all reflecting men of both races are united in feeling that race purity must be maintained. The bishop continues:

"What should the white men of the South do for the negro? They must give him a free hand, a fair field, and a

Continued on Page 5



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J. L. EDMUNDS, Editor and Business Manager.

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### "A SQUARE DEAL."

Elsewhere in these columns we publish in full the President's great speech at the Lincoln dinner given in New York on the 13th. To say it is a great speech does not describe it. It is a remarkable speech of the most remarkable man of the age. On the propositions of "a square deal," of "all men up rather than some men down," and of keeping the "door of hope open to all," he stands as solid as a rock. Upon the bedrock principles on which he stands, this Republic must stand or it will fall. "Equal rights for all and social privileges for none" must be our living and practiced creed. The negro needs no special or class legislation. It is class legislation that he is trying to get rid of. All he asks is the enforcement of the federal constitution and amendments. This will inflict hardship upon no individual who is worthy of the boon of American citizenship.

His advice to the colored citizens to prove themselves worthy of American citizenship by the development and exercise of those manly virtues that good

citizenship requires, comes like the advice of father to son. Colored men and women, read that speech carefully, thoughtfully, prayerfully, and then act accordingly.

His charge that the free Christian people of the North are not wholly just in their treatment of the negro is all too true. The fact that in this and other Northern cities labor unions composed of Christian men and women close the door of opportunity to colored persons simply on account of their color, is a sad commentary on their religious pretensions. Take, for instance, the great department stores and other institutions which employ thousands of young men and women. They close their doors to young colored persons, no matter how worthy, for no other reason than that their skins are dark. In politics there is a studied and persistent effort to cheat the negro out of the fruits of his political power.

Long live Roosevelt, the friend and President of all the American people.

### GEN. LEW WALLACE PASSES TO HIS REWARD.

Gen. Lew Wallace, warrior, author and statesman, has passed to his reward. His was a remarkable career, and what he has done to make the world better through the medium of his pen places him among the immortals. His books, "Ben Hur," the "Fair God," and other productions, are to posterity priceless legacies. The men who rescue nations from oblivion are their liberators who unshackle the limbs, and authors who liberate the mind from the thralldom of ignorance and open to them the inexhaustible domain of usefulness and happiness—that is the privilege of only the enlightened minds. The statesman and warrior perish with the states, but the great writer whose pen is devoted to the elevation of the mind lives on forever.

### SENATOR PENDLETON.

By the appointment of Editor T. A. Greene and Capt. F. H. Crumbly to clerkships in the Assembly, the colored voters of this city have been given the most fitting representation ever given in that department of the public service. It is the recognition of the negro's intellectual qualifications. Heretofore the

cleaning of cuspidors around the State Capitol was considered sufficient reward to the negro for keeping the Republican party in power. The gentlemen appointed are both well fitted and in every way worthy of the positions they hold. Senator Pendleton has honored every negro in this State and they will not forget him when election day comes around. He is a capable broad-gauge young man with great possibilities.

### THAT MOSCOW TRAGEDY.

The assassination of Grand Duke Sergius of Russia, while it is deplorable in every respect, is the punishment that comes to nations that tolerate oppression. Nations, like individuals, suffer for sins. "The soul that sinneth shall die." The same is true of nations. Revolutions, murder of rulers, wars and national death is the price they pay for permitting crimes against the weak. The laws of God are inexorable; none can escape. The policy of unfortunate Russia is at variance with the age, and sooner or later will have to yield to the inevitable. The world is moving toward universal freedom and equality among men, and those who attempt to arrest its progress will be wiped out.

Despotism is doomed. The strong anywhere can trample upon the rights of the weak, but it cannot escape the penalty. The decrees of God are eternal.

### HILL AND WARNER.

Messrs. E. G. Hill and G. M. Warner, both holders of valuable real estate in this city, have each purchased splendid ranches upon which they are raising crops, and have good prospects for a large yield. This is a move in the right direction and should be followed by every colored citizen who has a few dollars ahead. A thousand dollars in the bank will earn 3 or 4 per cent and open for you not a single job. The same invested in good country property will not only furnish employment for members of the race, but in a short time will earn 25 to 50 per cent.

### STRICTLY TO BUSINESS.

Robinsonville, Miss., Feb. 11, 1905.  
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Los Angeles, Cal.

Gentlemen:—Find enclosed money order for \$2.00 as payment. Permit me to say that I really cannot do without your paper, because its columns are strictly to business.

Yours,  
J. A. TAYLOR.



cordial godspeed, the two races working together for their mutual benefit and for the development of our common country. He must have liberty, equal opportunity to make his living, to earn his bread, to build his home. He must have justice, equal rights, and protection before the law. He must have the same political privileges; the suffrage should be based on character and intelligence for white and black alike. He must have the same public advantages of education; the public schools are for all the people, whatever their color or condition. The white men of the South should give hearty and respectful consideration to the exceptional men of the negro race, to those who have the character, the ability and the desire to be lawyers, physicians, teachers, preachers, leaders of thought and conduct among their own men and women. We should give them cheer and opportunity to gratify every laudable ambition, and to seek every innocent satisfaction among their own people. Finally, the best white men of the South should have frequent conferences with the best colored men, where, in frank earnest and sympathetic discussion they might understand each other better, smooth difficulties, and so guide and encourage the weaker race."

Surely we can all of us join in expressing our substantial agreement with the principles thus laid down by this North Carolina bishop, this representative of the Christian thought of the South.

I am speaking on the occasion of the celebration of the birthday of Abraham Lincoln, and to men who count it their peculiar privilege that they have the right to hold Lincoln's memory dear, and the duty to strive to work along the lines that he laid down. We can pay most fitting homage to his memory by doing the tasks allotted to us in the spirit in which he did the infinitely greater and more terrible tasks allotted to him.

Let us be steadfast for the right; but let us err on the side of generosity rather than on the side of vindictiveness toward those who differ from us as to the method of attaining the right. Let us never forget our duty to help in uplifting the lowly, to shield from wrong the humble; and let us likewise act in a spirit of the broadest and frankest generosity toward all our brothers, all our

fellow-countrymen; in a spirit proceeding not from weakness, but from strength, a spirit which takes no more account of locality than it does of class or of creed; a spirit which is resolutely bent on seeing that the Union which Washington founded and which Lincoln saved from destruction shall grow nobler and greater throughout the ages.

I believe in this country with all my heart and soul. I believe that our people will in the end rise level to every need, will in the end triumph over every difficulty that arises before them. I could not have such confident faith in the destiny of this mighty people if I had it merely as regards one portion of that people. Throughout our land things on the whole have grown better and not worse, and this is as true of one part of the country as it is of another. I believe in the southerner as I believe in the northerner. I claim the right to feel pride in his great qualities and in his great deeds exactly as I feel pride in the great qualities and deeds of every other American. For weal or for woe, we are knit together, and we shall go up or go down together; and I believe that we shall go up and not down, that we shall go forward instead of halting and falling back, because I have an abiding faith in the generosity, the courage, the resolution and the common sense of all my countrymen.

#### FACING PROBLEMS.

The Southern States face difficult problems; and so do the Northern States. Some of the problems are the same for the entire country. Others exist in greater intensity in one section, and yet others exist in greater intensity in another section. But in the end they will all be solved; for fundamentally our people are the same throughout this land; the same in the qualities of heart and brain and hand which have made this republic what it is in the great today; which will make it what it is to be in the infinitely greater tomorrow. I admire and respect and believe in and have faith in the men and women of the South as I admire and respect and believe in and have faith in the men and women of the North. All of us alike, northerners and southerners, easterners and westerners, can best prove our fealty to the nation's past by the way in which we do the nation's work in the present;

for only thus can we be sure that our children's children shall inherit Abraham Lincoln's single-hearted devotion to the great unchanging creed that "righteousness exalteth a nation."

The President received an ovation at the end of his speech, and many times during his address he was forced to pause until the diners had manifested their approval of his utterances.

Pasadena, Cal., Jan. 28, 1905.

Editor Liberator,

Los Angeles, Cal.

Dear Sir:—Please accept my congratulations on your splendid January number. It is inspiring to read it. I have read *The Liberator*, never missing a number, since its first appearance and have found it always fighting for the upbuilding of the race.

I have read all of the colored papers published in this State and find that *The Liberator* has given more space to advertise and encourage race enterprises than all of the others put together, and the thing that I do not understand is that your paper is so poorly supported by the negro business men.

I understand that there are four or five colored grocery stores in your city and not one of them has a card in your paper, or, in fact, any negro paper. After studying over this matter I came to the conclusion that too many of the negro business men are just as slow about patronizing race enterprises as the average negro.

White business men who want business advertise, and I notice that many of them advertise in your paper because they want some of the colored trade. If the colored grocers and negroes engaged in business want their race to patronize them, why don't they advertise in race papers, especially in your paper that is spending money to advertise them. I tell you, Mr. Edmonds, I don't understand it; your paper is well read, and is regarded by white and colored people capable of judging as one of the best papers of its kind published in the State. I tell you the negro business men ought to practice what they preach—patronize race enterprises. The man who lifts the collection has as much right to throw in for the support of the church as other people.

I trust that God will continue to be gracious to you and give you health, strength and friends to assist you in the great work you are doing.

I am yours sincerely,

ALFRED SUMMERS.



DO COLORED BUSINESS MEN  
PATRONIZE RACE EN-  
TERPRISES?

Elsewhere in these columns we publish a letter from Mr. Alfred Summers, a prominent citizen of Pasadena, in which he discusses at some length the attitude of colored business men toward race enterprises. Its perusal will doubtless be beneficial to those of the race who are interested in its advancement. We regret to admit that the charges made against our business men are too well founded, and hope that the appearance of their cards in some race journal will place them in the attitude of consistency. Our business men are by force of circumstances leaders, and a display of a little less selfishness on their part might greatly enhance their business. If we even had the aid of our business men by way of subscriptions for the paper it would increase our facilities for educating our people to patronize their stores. What we need, Bro. Summers, is a few more wide-awake, business men like Mr. T. B. Walker of your city. His card is to be seen in several race papers. This has much to do with his popularity and business success.

Because the services a man is trying to render needy people are not appreciated, is absolutely no reason for their discontinuance. The negro race has got to be lifted up. If the negro of the present does not appreciate the services of those who are carrying the load, a generation is coming that will. To labor and make sacrifices to broaden the opportunities of the little boys and girls that are looking to us men of today; to put their little feet in the right paths, is the sweetest and most sacred duty that can fall to the lot of man. That's what we are trying to do, and the washerwomen, and men like Bro. Summers who carry the load and do other similar labor, are standing by us loyally. If our labors contribute in the least to the advancement of the race, they will not have been in vain. That of itself is an imperishable reward. But for the present let us put away selfishness and concentrate our efforts to uplift the race. "Today is the day of salvation."

NEW EXCHANGES.

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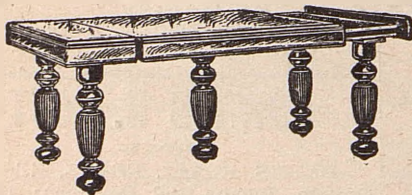
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